

# Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



May 2021

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 9

## From the Principal

The last full month of school is upon us! Students and staff are all working hard, from a variety of settings. There is still so much learning to be done, but it can be hard to keep focused as the weather turns warm and the days grow longer. **We appreciate your support** in having your child on time each day, ready to learn – whether in a Zoom or in a classroom! I also encourage you to have your child attend specialist classes daily. PE, music, art, and library are important parts of the elementary school experience. These classes provide a great chance for students to learn, to express themselves, and to interact with students from other groups or classes.

We are excited about the **PTA-sponsored virtual STEM Night** at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 11. Check out the details in the teal box to the right.

Looking ahead to fall, Everett Public Schools intends to start the 2021-22 school year 100% in person, but **we need your input** to understand how many families may be considering 100% remote learning:

- If you ARE planning on your child being enrolled at Jefferson, please complete [this survey](#) by midnight Wednesday, May 5, to indicate the strength of your preferences regarding in-person vs. remote learning.
- If you ARE NOT planning on your child being enrolled at Jefferson, please complete [this survey](#). This is open indefinitely. Transitional kindergarten families heading to their neighborhood schools for kindergarten do not need to complete this.

Registration for kindergarten next year is open. You may [register online](#) (preferred), or you may pick up paperwork from the office. Please spread the word among neighbors and friends!

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an economic impact on many families. Here are two **possible sources for help**:

- Rental assistance may be available through Volunteers of America. You can get more info [here](#).
- Assistance for immigrants who aren't eligible for federal financial relief or unemployment insurance may be eligible through [this fund](#).

Here are a few important **safety reminders**:

- Due to COVID-19, we are not allowing any food to be brought to school and shared as birthday treats.
- Our campus is closed to community use from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. school days. Per district policy, dogs are never allowed on school district fields. We ask that only service animals be on campus during the hours above – no pet dogs (outside of vehicles) at arrival or dismissal.

Thanks for reading, and have a great month of May!

**Mrs. Kelley, principal**

**Elizabeth Kelley**  
Principal

**Jefferson Elementary School**  
2500 Cadet Way,  
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[www.everettsd.org/jefferson](http://www.everettsd.org/jefferson)  
[https://twitter.com/EPS\\_Jefferson](https://twitter.com/EPS_Jefferson)

### **May 2**

Last day of [virtual book fair](#)

### **May 11**

PTA STEM Night, 6:30 p.m., Zoom:  
<https://everettsd.zoom.us/j/94634167642>

Passcode: stem

Materials pick-up:

- Hybrid: Get from teachers
- Remote: 8-4 on May 5

### **May 13**

PTA General Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
Zoom link coming soon

### **May 31**

No school: Memorial Day



## News from the Reading Team

Hello and happy sunny season from the reading team! We love to read outside this time of year – have you tried a “picnic read” before? Take out a blanket and a good book (and maybe a snack) and enjoy the sunshine while reading together. We are so proud of all the students and families who have adjusted (and re-adjusted, and adjusted again) as we’ve transitioned to having more students at school. It’s such a treat to see the smiling faces in the building!



*Janet Erickson, ELA Coach*

*Sue Gil and Mary Rowland, ELA support team*

## News from the Virtual Gym

Hello, Jefferson students and families! With sunnier and drier weather, May is a great month for outdoor activities. You might remember that the CDC recommends children ages 6-17 do at least 60 minutes of heart-pumping physical activity each day for their body, brain and emotional health. This should be a balance of aerobic activity and activities that strengthen bones (like running or jumping) and build muscles (like climbing or push-ups).

Students have been learning about nutrition and healthy eating choices that fuel their body and mind, and help balance emotions. Students have been learning about the five food groups, as well as “Go” foods (those with a lot of nutrition that can be eaten often), “Slow” foods (some nutrition that can be eaten in moderation), and “Whoa” foods (little or no nutrition that should be limited in the diet). Learning about the body will help students make better choices to be healthy, happy, and safe.

Remember, if your student happens to miss a live PE Zoom, they can get caught up by checking out their PE Canvas page and clicking on the orange “PE Weekly Activity” button. Feel free to send me a message in the Canvas Inbox or email me with any questions at [srowe@everettsd.org](mailto:srowe@everettsd.org).

*Ms. Rowe*

## News from the Virtual Art Room

Pop Art was SO fun! Students used primary colors and geometric/organic shapes while learning about some of the most well-known artists of 1900-1950. Moving forward, we will learn about Contemporary Art. This genre encompasses artwork from 1950 through today. Many of the artists are still creating artwork *right this minute!* I’m SO looking forward to this month to study some fun, dynamic, powerful and relevant artwork! In June, we will look at learn about local artists. If you or someone you know would like to be a guest in our virtual classroom, please let me know! As always, please let me know if you need supplies, and feel free to send pictures your artists’ amazing masterpieces!

*Mrs. Gardner, [agardner@everettsd.org](mailto:agardner@everettsd.org)*

## News from the Math Coach

Happy spring, Jefferson Families! Spring is a time for growth and renewal, and we have great news along those lines: Everett Public Schools has chosen a new elementary math curriculum! This process took five months and included pilot-testing options and allowing community members to view the selections. Here is an excerpt from the math department about our new curriculum, Illustrative Mathematics, which is also currently in our middle and high schools: “Committee members across each group selected *Illustrative Mathematics* as the clear favorite choice for a multitude of reasons including the curricula’s alignment to Common Core Standards; the embedded instructional supports for the *Effective Math Teaching Practices* from NCTM; the connection to 6-12 EPS math curriculum allowing families to access the same information, format and supports whether they have an elementary, middle or high school student; its technology integration components; and the program’s commitment to dismantling barriers to achievement in mathematics providing access and opportunity for each and every student.”

I can't wait to explore it with you, our staff, and all of our great students!

*Mrs. Roach*



## News from the Music Room

Happy spring from the virtual music room! We are down to our last seven music classes of the year. I know that with the weather improving and the year winding down, screen fatigue can be a real struggle, but it has been so great to see students in our weekly Zoom lessons. Gathering to make music each week is so valuable to our learning and classroom community, and students love to see their friends from other classes! Until we can all make music together again, I hope to see your child in Zoom!

*Mrs. Rockwell*

### STEM ZOOM

May 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30

ZOOM LINK:

<https://everettsd.zoom.us/j/94634167642>

Passcode: stem

Are you moving? Need to update your contact information? Please reach out to our registrar, Mrs. Tolpingrud, at

[Ttolpingrud@everettsd.org](mailto:Ttolpingrud@everettsd.org)

Thanks!

### Has your student been absent?

Please report your absences to the Jefferson Attendance e-mail:

[JFEattendance@everettsd.org](mailto:JFEattendance@everettsd.org)

### LIBRARY BOOKS DUE

Please look around for any Jefferson library books from this year or last year, as overdue notices go out soon. Books can be returned to the book bin outside the school, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

## DISTRICT NEWS

### ECEAP preschool accepting applications for 2021-22

Everett Public Schools Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP) is a FREE preschool program for three- and four-year-old children from families with limited income. ECEAP prepares children for kindergarten and provides family support and health and nutrition services. It is funded by the Washington State Department of Early Learning.

The six ECEAP sites within our school district are Cedar Wood, Garfield, Hawthorne, Lowell, Madison, and Silver Lake elementary schools. Space is limited – apply early! For an application or more information, please visit the [district ECEAP website](#) or call 425-385-4628.





## Everett Public Schools is hiring paraeducators

We are hiring paraeducators! Great benefits, competitive wages, professional development with summers and school breaks off! Interested? Please apply [online](#). Schools are located in Everett, Mill Creek and Bothell.



## Let's Connect - May



You are invited to connect with district leaders and engage in conversation on Monday, May 3 from 5 – 6 p.m. to get feedback on how we can do better. We want to hear from you and hope you can attend a Zoom meeting to share your thoughts. Please check your email for an invitation to connect with your school's regional superintendent and other district leaders. Be sure to check your email; RSVP required to receive the link for the meeting. Let's Connect!

## Summer school registration is open!

Registration is open for summer school 2021 and [registration materials are online](#). Eligible elementary and middle school students will receive an invitation from their teacher(s). A variety of summer school courses are available for high school students including district-facilitated credit recovery courses, Online High School and several community-based programs. Tuition is waived for EPS students for elementary, middle and high school (including OnlineHS.net courses) students. Cost varies for community-based summer school programs. Contact your school for more information!

## Connecting with counselors video series

Two new series of videos are now available on the district's Parent University webpage: Healthy and Safe Social Time for Teens and Helping your Child Respond to Stress.

In the series Healthy and Safe Social Time for Teens, MTSS Facilitator Kristin Walker and North Middle School Counselor Susie Smothers discuss how parents can support healthy and safe social time for teens and pre-teens. The series includes videos on the following topics:



- [Video 1: Introduction to the Series and Maintaining Social Connections](#) – Adolescence is a stage in life when social connections and experiences are a healthy and critical part of development. Not being able to see friends, go to school events, and play sports can cause sadness and major disappointment for teens and pre-teens and many parents are struggling with the best way to help them cope. Learn about healthy ways kids can maintain social connections while following health and safety guidelines.
- [Video 2: Supporting Healthy Online Boundaries](#) – With so many healthy and creative ways for kids to socialize online during the pandemic, our counselors share ways to set and balance responsible online boundaries for your teen.
- [Video 3: Social Connections at School](#) – As was the case before the pandemic, students can still participate in a variety of extracurricular activities after school. Encourage your child to get involved. Reach out to your school to find out what is available. Many schools are still offering a variety of clubs and organizations your child can join to stay connected with peers.





- **[Video 4: Family Social Opportunities](#)** – With many parents working from home at this time, families should try to carve out unplugged time together. Watch this video for suggested ways the whole family can engage in social activities together.
- **[Video 5: Supporting Your Child's Struggle](#)** – Pandemic fatigue is a real thing. Coronavirus has put a strain on our everyday functioning and teens may display a range of emotions including sadness, anger, frustration, depression, and more. Learn strategies to listen empathetically to your teen as a way to acknowledge their experiences without trying to “minimize” or “fix” the situation.

In the series Helping your Child Respond to Stress, MTSS Facilitator Kristin Walker and Evergreen Middle School Counselor Dr. Kaley Mitchell help us understand and define stress and offer action-oriented strategies for parents to help their children as they exhibit emotional and behavioral signs of stress. The series includes videos on the following topics:

- **[Video 1: Understanding Stress](#)** – Many parents are asking “Why is my child so stressed out?” Stress is dominating our world and society, and both adults and children are stressed at more intense levels than ever before. In this video, Evergreen Middle School Counselor Dr. Kaley Mitchell helps parents understand the history, biology, and experiences that lead to feeling stress.
- **[Video 2: Opposite Action Strategy](#)** – In this video, learn about the “Opposite Action” strategy to help your teen or pre-teen respond to stress. Opposite Action is doing the opposite of your urge when your urge is not helpful or healthy and is a skill that can help children (and adults too!) to respond to stress in a healthier, more effective way.
- **[Video 3: Cold Water Strategy](#)** – Is your child exhibiting heightened signs of anxiety or intense emotions? The Cold Water strategy can help! The Cold Water strategy is the act of using cold water on the face or body to bring anxiety down immediately. Learn more in this informative video.
- **[Video 4: What if we need help?](#)** – If coping mechanisms just aren’t working, learn when you should seek immediate help for your child. Also learn more about school, local, and national resources of support such as mental health counseling, crisis lines, and more.

All of the links to these videos can be found at [www.everettsd.org/ParentUniversity](http://www.everettsd.org/ParentUniversity).

## School Stakeholder Annual Survey



To guide Everett Public Schools’ continuous improvement process, each year schools survey students, families, and staff to understand specific strengths and challenges that impact school quality. The School Stakeholder Annual Survey is only one of many pieces of data analyzed by school leaders and staff. In addition to survey data, student achievement, attendance, discipline, and program data are evaluated to create School Improvement Plan goals.

You should have received [a link](#) to our anonymous, multiple-choice family survey in late April. We ask that you please complete and submit the survey by **May 21**. If you have more than one student in Everett Public Schools, please complete a survey for each school your student attends so they can benefit from your feedback.

We truly appreciate your time and participation. Your feedback is very important to us as we set and evaluate school improvement goals.



## 2021-22 Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

Beginning next school year, the district will no longer be printing the annual Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. Students and parents/guardians will access the handbook on the district website at [www.everettsd.org](http://www.everettsd.org) under “Students” and then “Student Handbook” or on the desktop of their student’s district provided device. Parents/guardians will acknowledge “receipt” of the student handbook and complete the required FERPA information through the district’s online annual student information update process. More information and instructions for completing the annual student information updates and accessing the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook will be provided to families before the start of the next school year.

## Virtual Student Art Shows

Mark Your Calendars for virtual art gallery open for public viewing on the [district’s website](http://www.everettsd.org):

- Elementary school artwork – open now
- High school artwork – starting May 17
- Middle school artwork – starting June 1



## Graduation dates

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming high school graduations in June. Ceremony details will be shared soon.

- Sequoia High School June 17 at 6 p.m. at TBD
- Cascade High School, June 19 at 11 a.m. at TBD
- Jackson High School, June 19 at 3 p.m. at TBD
- Everett High School, June 19 at 7 p.m. at TBD



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• Everett Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

• Title IX/Civil Rights  
Compliance Officer:  
• Mary O'Brien  
• 425-385-4106  
• [MO'brien@everettsd.org](mailto:MO'brien@everettsd.org)  
• PO Box 2098  
• Everett, WA 98213

Section 504 Coordinator:  
Dave Peters  
425-385-4063  
[DPeters@everettsd.org](mailto:DPeters@everettsd.org)  
PO Box 2098  
Everett, WA 98213

ADA Coordinator:  
Randi Seaberg  
425-385-4104  
[RSeaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:RSeaberg@everettsd.org)  
PO Box 2098  
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